

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies like theirs control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for their profits, and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced far away and with clear ideological leanings, it's more important that we see more substantive news and features about issues that matter, while showing as many sides of the story as possible.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them -- for the sake of our country's democracy. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.